

REMARKS

The office action of July 1, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 remain in this application. Applicants thank the Examiner for his indication that claim 8 includes allowable subject matter. Claim 8 has been written in independent form.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objects to the specification because of paragraph numbering and the need for patent application numbers.

With respect to 37 C.F.R. 1.52(b)(6), Applicants note that (b)(6) is optional. Further, the numbering format suggested by the Examiner is a suggested format, not a mandatory one. While the Examiner can require correction under 37 C.F.R. 1.52(b)(1) through (b)(5), requiring a correction under (b)(6) is not supported by the Rules. Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw this objection to the specification.

With respect to paragraphs 1, 53, and 76, the paragraphs have been amended to include reference to co-pending serial no. 09/852,799.

Objection to the Claims

Claim 1 has been objected to. Applicants have amended claim 1. No new matter has been entered.

Rejection of Claims Over Comair

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Comair. Applicants traverse.

Claim 1 recites:

“ a first portion having a table, said table having blocks
storing properties;
a second portion having an item, said item having an index
that references one of said blocks.”

Comair fail to disclose the claimed “blocks storing properties” which are then referenced by items. Rather, Comair discloses a “parts table” 434. While referenced by index 452, the parts table does not provide “properties” that are referenced by “items” as claimed. Claim 1 is allowable as originally presented over Comair as it fails to disclose each and every aspect of the claim. The other dependent and independent claims 3, 4, 6, 9, and 11-14 are allowable for similar reasons.

Rejection of Claims Over the GIF Specification

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over the GIF Specification. Applicants traverse.

Claim 1 recites:

“ a second portion having an item, said item having an index
that references one of said blocks.”

The GIF Specification discloses two types of color tables: a local one and a global one. There, no index in the sections referenced by the Examiner. Rather, the local color table becomes the color table for the immediate next image. See the paragraph 21(a). So, if there are three (or more) images with a first using a global color table and the next two both having the color, the next two images have to BOTH specify individually the local color table. No indexing exists. So the local color table for the second image is repeated for the third. The “index” of claim 1 prevents this duplication. Accordingly claim 1 is allowable over the GIF Specification.

Claim 7 is allowable for at least this reason.

Claim 12 is allowable at least for the specification of two or more properties as amended.

Rejection over the GIF Specification and JOT

Claims 9, 11, and 14 stand rejected over the GIF Specification in view of JOT. Applicants submit that JOT also fails to lack indexes as claimed. The claims are allowable over the combination.

Double Patenting

Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection.

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Amendment dated October 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 1, 2004


It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

All rejections having been addressed, applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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